

The Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) to aid teachers and students in keeping abreast of geography behind current news events.

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

of
The National Geographic Society
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

The National Geographic Society is a non-profit educational and scientific society established for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.

VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 10

1. India Strives for a Single Language
2. Sunny Bermuda Plays Host to Big Three
3. Mist Hides "Mountains of the Moon"
4. Busy Bees Have Good and Bad Habits
5. A Queen Encircles the World

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One of the secondary languages of India is Telugu. It is used by 21,500,000 citizens of Andhra on the southeast coast. Andhra recently became India's 29th state. Other modern states have been molded from the motley assortment of princedoms in old British India (illustration, back cover).

Modern Indian languages belong to four linguistic families—Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austric, and Sino-Tibetan. About 75 per cent of the people speak an Indo-Aryan tongue, of which Hindi, the most widely used, is spoken by more of the world's inhabitants than any other language except North Chinese and English. Hindustani is the most important dialect of Hindi.

More than 63,000,000 Indians, including many of the nation's outstanding poets and novelists, use Bengali, another Aryan tongue. Gujarati, mother tongue of Mohandas Gandhi; Marathi, Oriya, and Assamese are other leading Aryan languages.

Indo-Aryan languages descend from a race which migrated to India from the Eurasian plains south of the Ural Mountains in the period 600 B. C. to 1000 A. D. Sanskrit, major vehicle of ancient Indian culture, is the basis of all Indo-Aryan tongues.

Telugu Widely Spoken—Approximately 20 per cent of India's populace, mainly southern peoples, speak Dravidian languages. Telugu is the native tongue of nearly 30,000,000. Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam are other important Dravidian forms. All stem from the highly advanced race which entered India probably from the Mediterranean and Asia Minor prior to 3500 B. C.

Austric languages are spoken by less than one and three-tenths per cent of the population—mostly residents of the hill sections of central and northeastern India. Sino-Tibetan is used by less than one per cent. It is found primarily among small tribes along the southern slopes of the Himalayas and in North Bengal and Assam.

Almost all North Indian languages reflect the influence of Persian and Arabic. Urdu, a Persianized version of Hindi, is the leading language of neighboring Pakistan. In effect, it is a dialect of Hindustani, usually written in the Arabic alphabet.

Although India was a British possession for 150 years, only a small percentage—some 300,000 Indians—can speak or write English. However, it continues to be the language of higher education throughout the nation.

References—India is shown on the Society's map of Southwest Asia. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For further information, see "India's Sculptured Temple Caves," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1953; "High Adventure in the Himalayas," August, 1952; "Delhi, Capital of a New Dominion," November, 1947; "India Mosaic," "India's Treasures Helped the Allies," and "South of Khyber Pass," April, 1946; "India—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," October, 1943; "The World's Words," December, 1943; "New Delhi Goes Full Time," October, 1942; and, in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, November 2, 1953, "New Capital City Rises in India's Punjab." (Issues of *The Magazine* not more than 12 months old are available to schools and libraries at a specially discounted price of 50¢ a copy. Earlier issues sell for 65¢ a copy through 1946; \$1.00, 1930-1945; \$2.00, 1912-1929. Write for prices of issues prior to 1912.)



VOLKMAR WENTZEL

Student Nurses in India Use English—The words on the blackboard chart are in the language of the country that ruled India for a century and a half. English will continue to be used for educational and official purposes for the first fifteen years of India's freedom, after which it is hoped Hindi will be used universally. These sari-clad girls, students at New Delhi's College of Nursing, watch their instructor dissect an animal in anatomy class. New Delhi is India's capital.

Bulletin No. 1, December 7, 1953

India Strives for a Single Language

The "battle of the languages" in India is entering its fifth year and may continue for several decades more despite the original hope of the new nation's leaders to make Hindi used universally within 15 years.

India's 356,000,000 people speak 179 different languages and 544 dialects. Since 44 per cent of the populace customarily use Hindi, this was made the official language in 1949, two years after India obtained its independence from Great Britain. The constitution, however, recognized 13 other important native tongues.

A True Babel—Few places in the world exemplify better than India the biblical description of Babel, the scene of the confusion of languages. "Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."—*Genesis XI: 9*.

France's Foreign Minister Georges Bidault, once a history professor, can find much of interest in Bermuda's educational system. Children are required to attend school between the ages of seven and thirteen, but, instead of public schools, they go to private schools which the government assists by grants of money.

Neptune Struck Twice—Bermuda's story is highlighted by two shipwrecks. The first, in the early 1500's, was responsible for the discovery of the islands by Juan de Bermudez, the Spaniard for whom they were named. The second, in 1609, dumped ashore a Virginia-bound company of English settlers who stayed.

Fortunately for them, Bermudez, a century before, had abandoned on the isles the cargo of hogs his ship had been carrying from Spain to Cuba. The castaway colonists found wild porkers aplenty to provide food. Bermuda is believed to have minted the first money in the new world a dozen years or less after its founding. It is no surprise, therefore, that the image of a hog appears on these coins.

The Bermudas are the world's most northerly coral group and have a land area of twenty-one square miles, or one less than that of Manhattan Island. Of the 300 islands and reefs, only a score are inhabited. The largest is Great Bermuda, also known as Bermuda, Main, and Long Island. It accounts for three-fourths of the land area. Next in importance are St. George's, St. David's, Somerset, and Ireland, all linked by bridges to the big island where Hamilton, the capital of the colony, is located.

It is Bermuda's proud distinction that it has the oldest overseas parliament in the British Empire. Sessions began in 1620, the year the Pilgrims reached Massachusetts. For governing purposes, the islands originally were divided into eight "tribes," or parishes, political units which still survive. The Big Three are meeting in St. George's Parish, near Tucker's Town on the southeast coast.

Depends on Imports—Only one-tenth of the land is farmed, so Bermuda imports most of its supplies from the United States and Canada. It also imports from these two nations a king-sized portion of the colony's revenues in the form of vacationers and tourists.

The islands were "discovered" as a beguiling resort about 1905, soon after the dawn of the automobile era. Until World War II's harsh necessities paved the way for change, one of Bermuda's attractions for many was that its winding roads knew only the clip-clop of carriage horses or the soft whir of bicycle tires. Motor cars are now allowed, but they must be of small wheel base, only one to a household, and obey a speed limit of twenty miles an hour.

Nature has been lavish in decorating the roadsides. Amid palms and cypress grow bright hibiscus, bougainvillea, poinsettia, oleander, lilies, the islands' special morning glories, bird of paradise flowers, and Spanish bayonets.

References—Bermuda is shown on the National Geographic Society's maps of the Atlantic Ocean and North America.

For additional information, see "The British Commonwealth of Nations," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1943; "Americans in the Caribbean," June, 1942; "Happy Landing in Bermuda," February, 1939; and, in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, April 20, 1953, "Bermuda, Playground and Sentry for the U. S."



KNOFF FROM PIX

Hamilton Harbour Sparkles in Bermuda's Sun—Passengers on a liner watch two sloops maneuver. Beyond the park stands the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, cosponsor of sailing races run every year between Newport, Rhode Island, and Bermuda.

Bulletin No. 2, December 7, 1953

Sunny Bermuda Plays Host to Big Three

"Cold war" worries bring the leaders of the United States, Britain, and France to tranquil, sun-drenched Bermuda for talks which may help shape the course of future events around the globe.

Bermuda provides the most idyllic setting in the long series of top-level international parleys that began in World War II. The little island group, fixed in the turquoise Atlantic less than 650 miles off North Carolina's coast, is celebrated for scenic beauty, quiet charm, and a leisurely tempo of living.

Relaxation Beckons—Conference schedules rarely allow time for recreation but conferees will have to ignore numerous tempting opportunities. If President Eisenhower's arm is in shape for golfing, there are some excellent courses to test his skill. Or he may try his luck at game fishing for marlin, wahoo, bonefish, and other sporting varieties.

In the less strenuous field, he and fellow-artist Sir Winston Churchill could take to their brushes and paints. They will not lack for subjects. Pastel-hued coral houses strew the rolling green countryside like polka dots. Yacht sails patch the blue waters which wash the pinkish beaches of coral sands.

last summer also indicated the presence of gold, radioactive ores, and other valuable minerals.

The Mountains of the Moon are officially known as Ruwenzori. A wilderness of weird forests shrouded in mist, they are a pocket-size range 70 miles long and 30 miles wide. They form part of the boundary between the British Protectorate of Uganda and the Belgian Congo.

Although the range rises from steaming tropical jungles and the Equator crosses its southern end, its peaks are perpetually snow clad.

Fantastic Flora—Midway up the misty slopes of the Ruwenzori, heather plants—relatives of the low Scottish shrub—grow to heights of 60 and 70 feet. Huge cushions of vividly colored moss encircle the trunks, and limbs are festooned with streaming pendants of pale green lichens. A bit higher, varieties of lobelia, groundsel, and other common garden weeds grow to tree size.

There is no human life above 7,216 feet, site of the highest native village. Water buffaloes occasionally range up to the 7,000-foot level, and elephants are common in the bamboo forests up to 8,500 feet. Leopards and a few antelopes have been sighted as high as 13,000 feet. Bright-feathered birds abound at lower altitudes.

Topping the range are six groups of snow peaks. Each group is considered as one mountain. Mount Stanley is the highest of the six groups. All four of its peaks—Margherita, Alexandra, Elena, and Savoia—are more than 16,000 feet high. They spawn many small glaciers.

Known to the Ancients—Once thought to contain King Solomon's fabulous mines, the Ruwenzori was first placed on a map by the ancient Greek cartographer, Ptolemy. From descriptions given him by travelers, he called the range the "Mountains of the Moon" in the belief that the moon had descended to touch their tips and turn them to silver. Ptolemy also believed them to be the source of the Nile.

Henry M. Stanley was the first European to explore the range, in 1889. He gave the mountains their modern name. Ruwenzori, a native term, means "King of the Clouds" or "Rain-maker."

Geologists have long been puzzled as to the origin of the Ruwenzori. The peaks are not volcanic, as are Kilimanjaro and Kenya, Africa's other major summits.

Alongside the Ruwenzori range runs another scientific phenomenon—the so-called "Great Rift Valley," a cleft 1,500 feet deep, 40 miles wide, and many hundreds of miles long.

References—The Ruwenzori range appears on the Society's map of Africa.

For further information, see "Trans-Africa Safari," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1938; and "Uganda, 'Land of Something New,'" January, 1937.

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VITTORIO SELLA

Mount Speke Looks Down on a Groundsel Garden—These bulbous-topped members of the aster family grow to immense size in the perpetual mists of the Mountains of the Moon. The highest peak was named for John Hanning Speke, English African explorer who discovered the source of the Nile in 1862.

Bulletin No. 3, December 7, 1953

Mist Hides "Mountains of the Moon"

"You're lucky to see them even when you are right on the spot," said W. Robert Moore upon returning from an African trip that took him to the "Mountains of the Moon."

"I traveled around the base of the range for several days," said the Chief of the National Geographic Society's Foreign Editorial Staff, "and got only one good view of them. Mist and clouds hide the snow-crowned summits most of the time and make these mountains one of the world's least-known regions."

Seldom Climbed—"They are so seldom climbed that it is still a newsworthy event when someone explores their crests. Some of the high valleys also are relatively unexplored."

However, Mr. Moore met mining engineers who had begun to exploit the copper and cobalt found in the foothills of the Uganda side. Reports

until the time of the Crusades, in the 12th and 13th centuries. Its first use there was in medicine. However, after sugar cane got a foothold in Western soil, honey lost much of its prestige as a food. It has always been considered a wholesome delicacy but it now has rivals in cane sugar, beet sugar, and sugar from the sap of the maple tree.

Queens Are Jealous Creatures—Perhaps the most wasteful of the honeybees' habits is swarming. This move takes place when there is the prospect of a second queen in the hive. When one or more princesses are about to hatch, the old queen leaves home, taking with her a group of the hive's workers to found a new colony. Later the original hive may be further weakened as young queens, who will not stand for rivals, fly off with "casts," as small swarms are called.

Many dangers lie along the way for swarms and casts. Particularly serious is a sudden coming of winter. A newly settled colony may be caught without enough honey made up to last until spring, and with its emigrant workers from the old hive too aged and feeble to be of much use.

Although a queen bee may live three or four years, the life of a worker bee is short, averaging six weeks. After a cast leaves the home hive several weeks elapse before it can raise a new generation to replace the worn-out pioneers who founded the new colony.

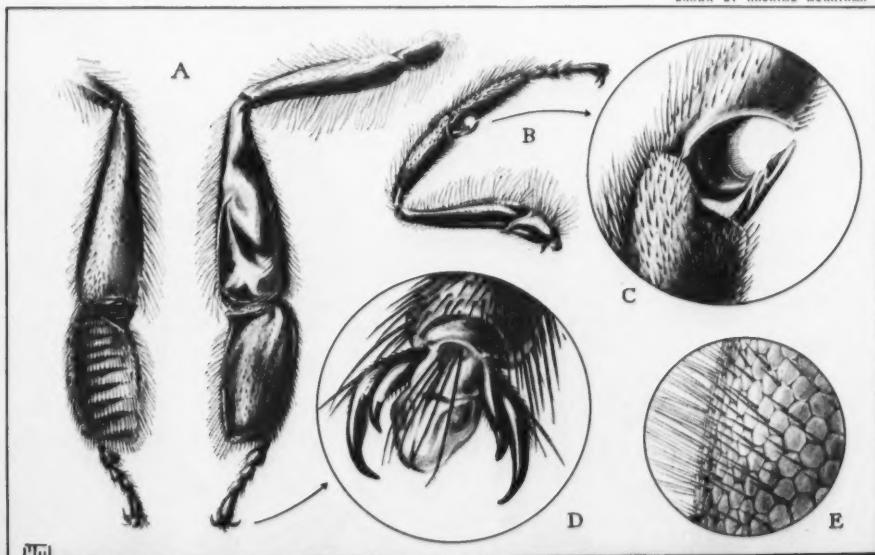
It is suicidal for the honeybee to sting because it cannot withdraw its weapon from the flesh of its victim. When the bee deliberately wrenches itself free, it leaves behind both its sting and its vital organs.

Stingless and soon to die, it can be handled without harm. Bumblebees, wasps, hornets, and yellowjackets, however, had best be left alone after the first sting. They keep their weapons and can attack again.

References—For additional information, see "Man's Winged Ally, the Busy Honeybee," in *The National Geographic Magazine*, April, 1935.

These Are the Bee's Knees—Also legs, feet, and eyes are here magnified. Hairs on the hind legs (A) make a handy basket in which the busy insect carries pollen from flower to flower. A hole in the front leg (B and C) is a comb for cleaning the worker's antennae. Sharp claws project from each foot (D). Eyes with some 5,000 six-sided facets each (E) give the bee marvelous sight.

DRAWN BY HASHIME MURAYAMA





U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No Housing Shortage for This Swarm—From a shabby old dwelling, a beekeeper moves his charges into a new home. Smoke puffed into the old hive sends workers scurrying into honey cells. The keeper breaks open the old hive and removes chunks of bee-covered comb. Holding them at the entrance of the new hive, he shakes the bees toward it. They enter obediently and soon settle down in their new quarters.

Bulletin No. 4, December 7, 1953

Busy Bees Have Good and Bad Habits

Honeybees, although famous for their industry and efficiency, have some extravagant and seemingly unwise habits.

They work themselves to death. They commit suicide when they sting. Their strange customs of swarming and casting endanger their very existence. And their queens are as arrogant as Catherine the Great.

Because honeybees are among earth's most important domestic creatures, biologists who specialize in heredity are trying to breed a new type of honeybee without the bad habits of its ancestors.

Ideal Bee a Friendly Stay-at-Home—What a beekeeper wants is a longer-lived, more friendly worker who will stay at home and tend to the business of making honey and spreading pollen from plant to plant.

Some basic food crops, including virtually all fruits and most vegetables, are entirely dependent upon the busy bee for pollination. The vital process is carried out by the insect as it flits from flower to flower with bits of fertilizing pollen tangled in its fuzz or limbs. Clover, alfalfa, and other pasture grasses are indebted to bees for the same service.

Today the production of honey is by far the least important of the bee's services to man and beast. In ancient times honey was the only known sweetening. Although sugar cane was raised in India during the first century of the Christian era, it was not generally known in Europe

miles southeast. At Nuku'alofa, capital of the Tongas, Elizabeth will return the call of the stately Queen Salote. This last remaining South Seas monarch was a popular guest at Queen Elizabeth's coronation.

Elizabeth, during a 38-day tour of New Zealand, will open a special session of Parliament at Wellington (see next week's BULLETINS).

In Australia, the Queen and the Duke will dock in the spacious harbor of Sydney, capital of the State of New South Wales. For two months the royal party will tour the island continent, twice visited by Philip on Navy service. Elizabeth, recently given the specific title, Queen of Australia, will open Parliament at Canberra. In 1927, her father, then Duke of York, opened the first Parliament held in that made-to-order capital of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Will Visit All State Capitals—Queen Elizabeth will visit the capital cities of each of Australia's six States. After the landing at Sydney and the flight to Canberra, a trip to Tasmania, Australia's island State, will be made by ship, with a flight back to the mainland at Melbourne, capital of Victoria. The temperate climate and forested mountains of Tasmania, smallest State of the Commonwealth, attracts thousands of vacationers from Australia's mainland, and will probably remind the royal visitors of their home island.

From Melbourne the tour will continue by plane to Adelaide, South Australia's capital, and then wing across the plains of South and Western Australia to Perth, capital of the latter State. Stops will include Kalgoorlie, famous mining center where miles of wheat fields may gradually replace dwindling gold mines as the region's chief wealth.

At Fremantle, port of the capital city, the Queen and her party will rejoin the *Gothic* for the voyage across the Indian Ocean to Ceylon.

On the way they will stop at the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. This group has its own "king," a descendant of the Scottish seafarer who was the islands' first white settler. At Ceylon, latest member of the British Commonwealth to become self-governing, Queen Elizabeth will celebrate her 28th birthday on April 21. The eleven-day stay will include tours of ancient ruins and modern developments amid Ceylon's tropical jungles and cool forested highlands.

Will Complete Earlier African Tour—The Queen will leave the ship at Aden, on the corner of the Arabian peninsula, and board a plane for Africa. There she will complete the tour interrupted in 1952 by the death of her father, King George VI.

In Uganda, between Lake Victoria and Ruwenzori (see Bulletin No. 3), Elizabeth will dedicate an important Nile River dam. At Tobruk, Libya, scene of British gallantry in World War II, she expects to meet King Idris, elected monarch of the world's newest kingdom. From the north African port she will board the new royal yacht *Britannia* for Britain's Mediterranean strongholds, Malta and Gibraltar. Then the final miles will take her home to Buckingham Palace.

References—Queen Elizabeth's route may be traced on the Society's World Map.

See also "In the London of the New Queen," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1953; "The British Way," April, 1949; "The British Commonwealth of Nations," April, 1943; and articles listed under "British Commonwealth of Nations" in the *Cumulative Index to the National Geographic Magazine*.



BERNARD K. SCHRAM

Fiji's Palms Contribute Beauty, Health, and Light to Elizabeth's Realms—A planter tallies sacks of copra weighed by native workers. From the chunks of sun-dried coconut come oils for candles, margarine, cosmetics, soaps, and innumerable other daily necessities and occasional luxuries. Fijians will give a warm welcome to the Queen on her pre-Christmas visit to their picturesque islands.

Bulletin No. 5, December 7, 1953

A Queen Encircles the World

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, who during her coronation ceremonies last June held a golden orb symbolizing the globe, is now circling the globe itself on a 50,000-mile tour which began November 23.

The young Queen and her husband, Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, (illustration, cover) are covering areas of the British Commonwealth and Empire never before visited by the ruling monarch. For the first time in history, a reigning British sovereign is traveling completely around the world.

The royal couple and their party flew first to Bermuda, then to Jamaica. On that largest of Britain's West Indian colonies, they met officials of other British Caribbean possessions. From Kingston they sailed on the liner *Gothic* over waters where the British naval heroes, Nelson and Rodney, performed feats of valor and Sir Henry Morgan, the buccaneer, carried on more infamous exploits.

The *Gothic*'s schedule called for it to sail through the Panama Canal and head for the British-owned Fiji Islands, once a land of cannibals. When she arrives there Elizabeth will witness fantastic South Sea pageantry. She will take part in strange ancient rituals, and receive whales' teeth, Fiji tokens of honor.

From Fiji to the Tonga Islands, the *Gothic* will angle more than 500



(SEE BULLETIN NO. 1)

A Curtain of Water Secludes This Udaipur Garden—The State of Udaipur now forms part of the Rajasthan Union, created in 1949 as a unit of the new sovereign democratic republic of India. The region formerly was known as Rajputana.

A. L. SYED

